

Dr. E. MAYR forwarded the descriptions of two new subspecies from the Snow Mountains of New Guinea :—

***Ptiloprora plumbea granti*, subsp. nov.**

Differs from typical *plumbea* Salvadori (mountains of S.E. New Guinea) by the generally darker coloration and larger size. The black shaft-streaks on head and back are much broader and the grey of the upper and underside is dark instead of pale.

Type in the British Museum, ♂ adult ; Camp 6 c, Utakwa River ; February 20, 1913. C. B. Kloss Coll. Brit. Mus. Reg. no. 1916.5.30.504.

Remarks. I name the new bird in honour of the late Mr. Ogilvie-Grant, who had already noted the larger size of the Snow Mountains bird, and gave the measurements (Ibis, Suppl. ii. 1915, p. 75).

***Pachycephalopsis hattamensis axillaris*, subsp. nov.**

Hartert recently described (Nov. Zool. xxxvi. 1930, p. 57) the Wandammen form of *hattamensis* as being darker than the typical Arfak form. The birds of the Snow Mountains are, on the contrary, lighter.

Underneath they are distinctly lighter than *hattamensis*—more of a yellowish-olive colour—especially in the middle of the belly. The axillaries are about the same tint, and not pure isabelline as in the typical form.

Type in the British Museum, ♂ adult ; Camp 6 a, Utakwa River, Dutch New Guinea, January 6, 1913. C. B. Kloss Coll. Brit. Mus. Reg. no. 1916.5.30.245.

Dr. G. CARMICHAEL LOW reported that on Sunday, January 11, 1931, in company with Mr. A. Holte Macpherson and Dr. Manson-Bahr, he saw a brown-headed Smew (*Mergellus albellus*) at Barn Elms, a white bird and two brown-headed ones on the long reservoir, Lonsdale Road, Barnes, and ten together (five adult white males and five brown-headed birds) on one of the Hampton reservoirs, the small one, visible from the road. He thought such a large number of this somewhat rare bird was more or less unique, and did not know of any other part of Britain where so many could be seen together at any one time.